

NAVAL BASE FOR MOUTH OF COLUMBIA

F. C. Harley of Astoria, the man who is leading the naval base campaign, has carefully thought out the question from many angles and today gives the people of Astoria and the Columbia basin his candid views thereon. He says:

"I am not an alarmist. I anticipate no immediate invasion of this country in general nor this coast in particular, but since the unheralded, and to the man in the street, unsuspected outbreak of hostilities a year ago last August, unveiling as it did secret alliance after secret alliance, preparation after preparation, I am very far from belonging to that school of good people who dwell in mental and moral security. Please God, we will have no war. But if it should ever become expedient for a nation, or an alliance of nations to attempt an invasion of the United States (and who now can authoritatively state that it will not?), if that day ever comes, in what manner will we be prepared to meet the emergency?"

"By we, I mean most especially we at the portal of the Inland Empire. For of all the points of attack on American soil from the Pacific Ocean, the Columbia river is the most attractive for the very soundest of military reasons. We have spent millions of dollars teaching Orientals to eat bread. Europeans taught us. To the north are vast stands of timber, very valuable as building material, but poor fodder for man or beast. To the south is the citrus belt. Armies might enjoy grapefruit, oranges and lemons for appetizing, but it is questionable whether they could fight on a steady diet of citrus fruit. But straight up the Columbia, and reached by a water grade, lies the great wheat belt of the Northwest, where, once established, an invading force could grow fat and prosecute a campaign with astonishing comfort.

"Realizing this, and it is incomprehensible that people should not realize it, the question confronts us. What we shall do about it? To this question, there is in my mind, but one answer.

"It is essential that this accessible entry to unlimited forage be effectively blocked, that the very thought of invasion of the Columbia basin should be made ridiculous. The method by which this may be accomplished is being successfully demonstrated to the whole world by the coast-line of Germany.

"Dreadnoughts are needless. Germany's dreadnoughts are bottled up in the Kiel canal. Citizen soldiery is needless. Germany's soldiers are effecting invasions, not repelling them. Big guns are incidental; they would be unwieldy against fast ships. On none of these things does Germany depend, and yet the greatest fleet the world ever saw has not even attempted to attack Bremen or Hamburg, in which harbors the merchant ships of the enemy nation are securely reposing.

"German efficiency in coast defense exhibits itself in such cunningly laid mine fields that even the British Admiralty has no desire to test them, and the day and night patrolling of these mine fields by light cruisers, destroyers and little patrol boats.

"And if that method is effective against the mightiest naval power on the earth, allied with the fleets of three of the Great Powers, all possessing naval bases within a few hundred miles of the German coast, then how great security could we not expect from its inception at the mouth of the Columbia river! And it is perfectly apparent that we must have a naval base at the mouth of the river for a fleet of battleships, scout boats, mine layers, submarines and destroyers to complement the mine fields.

"The people of Portland should recognize this need, as should the entire Inland Empire, and should back us in our efforts to assure ourselves of an iron-ribbed protection in case of any possible contingency. It is not a matter of 'pork-barrelling.' Rather, it is a case of the common good of the Pacific coast and the United States. As the point of the greatest danger, the throat of the Inland Empire should be most thoroughly and conscientiously bulwarked against attack. And furthermore, it must be!"

LIEU LAND BILL MAY BE PASSED

Governor Withycombe has taken up the fight for legislation at the present session of congress enabling Oregon to exchange a scattered acreage comprising the sixteenth and the thirty-sixth sections in different forest reserves of the state for an equal acreage in a single body in the Santiam national forest.

In a letter written to Senator Chamberlain and made public, the governor urges the senator to work

TOO MUCH REGULATION

After while someone will initiate a law compelling all packages to be wrapped in transparent paper in order that everybody will know what other folks are taking home.

Somebody will suggest that men stop smoking as well as the boys. Girls found chewing gum will be disciplined by the courts or a commission of some sort.

This is the way the world is moving.

Anything that looks like a game of chance is a gambling device and punishable by law. A commission of some sort stands ready to enforce it.

It will be a crime after while to say "I bet you," and if the boys who play marbles during recess at school are caught playing for keeps they will be expelled from school.

If a man punches a whole in a cardboard box for a chance on a box of candy, he is a gambler. If he plays a game of cards for his own amusement in company with some friends, he is a confirmed card sharp. If he acknowledges that he had played for the havanas, he is hauled into court and either reprimanded or fined.

All these extreme regulations cost money, and are productive of but little good.

Oregon is top heavy with laws and commissions, all of which cost the taxpayers immense sums annually.

The state of Oregon has an army of non-essentials to take care of what a private corporation would ditch in ten minutes.

The first thing that would happen under sane government would be to wipe out a multiplicity of laws that now remain on our statute books that do nothing else but regulate something and provide a commission therefor.—Astoria Budget.

LIST OF TRANSFERS.

Reported by Columbia County Abstract Company.

Jan. 19—A. B. Wright et ux to N. D. Johnson; lot 2, Blk. 27, Rainier, \$1.00.

Seapoose Acres Co. to Hortense Mazey et al; tract 119, Seapoose Acre Tracts, \$10.00.

James M. McNaughton et ux to Clarence Leap; tract 5, McNaughton Add. to Seapoose Acre Tracts, \$10.00.

Archie Gamble to George Gamble; land in Sec. 14, T. 7 N., R. 3 W., \$1.00.

Julian Wasser to Flora Noyes; land in Sec. 15, T. 6 N., R. 2 W., \$150.00.

Jan. 21—Columbia Agricultural Co. to John Steelquist; tracts 15, A and B, Clatskanie Drainage District, \$3285.00.

George A. Brinn to Annie M. Brinn; part of lot 22, blk. 11, St. Helens, \$1.00.

Jan. 22—P. J. Popham et ux to Jennie Popham; lot 8, blk. 7, Clatskanie, \$10.00.

P. J. Popham et ux to Jennie Popham; lots 1 and 2, South Clatskanie, \$10.00.

Jan. 24—Frank McFarland et ux to W. B. Potter; land in Sec. 32, T. 4 N., R. 2 W., \$10.00.

W. Irving Spencer et ux to D. B. Lowen; land in Sec. 32, T. 7 N., R. 2 W., \$10.00.

Jan. 25—Frank M. Haight to Chas. Loughrey; land in Sec. 34, T. 4 N., R. 2 W., \$10.00.

for the passage of a bill at this session making it possible to exchange certain school lands and indemnity rights within the national forests of the state for an equal area in a compact body.

Should the desired legislation be passed and the exchange made the state would be netted 45,000 acres in the Santiam forest. A further provision probably would be that the state would guarantee to hold the 45,000 acre block for at least fifty years, in the meantime selling the timber for the benefit of the irreducible school fund and re-timbering the area. The governor also hopes to make the area beneficial to the forestry department of the state agricultural college. The tract is located conveniently to the institution and would provide means for practical instruction in the department.

Governor Withycombe lately received a letter from Gen. G. W. Peavy of the school of forestry at the agricultural college relative to the proposed legislation. This letter and a copy of a bill similar to the one that it is hoped will be submitted to this session, the governor enclosed in his letter to Senator Chamberlain. This bill is one that was introduced at the first session of the sixty-third congress and passed in the senate but failed in the house. Senator Chamberlain was at that time chairman of the committee on public lands and submitted a report on the bill.

Because Senator Chamberlain is familiar with the benefits that would result through the passage of this legislation Governor Withycombe believes the senator will work for it at this session.

RAINIER LOSES OUT

A decision was handed down from the Supreme Court at Salem last Tuesday in favor of Charles Masters and the U. S. Fidelity & Guarantee Bonding Company.

The case is one of much interest to Rainier people and has been in the courts for the past four years and was instituted by the city of Rainier to recover damages and costs from the Bonding Company because of the failure of Contractor Masters

to finish his contract with the city for improvement of streets.

The case was first tried in the Circuit Court before Judge Morrow, who in his decision granted a new trial over a strong protest from the Bonding Company and Masters. Rather than have a new trial in the lower courts, attorneys for Masters and the Bonding Company carried the case into the Supreme Court, rather than risk a decision which is said would have most likely been in favor of the city of Rainier from a new trial.

The provisions, if any, in the decision of the Supreme Court is not yet known, but it is expected that the Supreme Court has not rendered a sweeping decision in favor of the Bonding Company.

The question that now confronts the property owners who will have to bear the expense of this improvement along with over \$10,000 interest on the unpaid bonds, is will the general fund pay the interest or will it be taxed up against the property?

Corner lots involved in this improvement will be taxed \$500, and

this does not include interest on the outstanding bonds. Some of the lots are said not to be worth the taxes, so it is a foregone conclusion that the city of Rainier is going to fall heir to some city property.

The way the situation looks up at this time, Rainier will have other legal fights on the settlement of her street improvements that bids fair to hang in the courts for several years to come.—Review.

Dr. Stone's Heave Drops cures heaves. Price \$1; for sale by all druggists.

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Announcement—This Piano and Popularity Voting Contest will be conducted fairly and honestly on business principles, strictly with justice and fairness to all concerned. With the above principles, it will be an assured success.

Prizes—The Capital prize will be an Obermeyer & Sons' Piano. Also other valuable prizes to the amount of many dollars which are announced herewith.

Candidates—Young ladies in this and adjoining towns are eligible to enter this contest, and the party receiving the largest number of votes will receive the beautiful \$400 Obermeyer & Sons' Piano, and other premiums will be distributed in accordance with the contestants' standing at the final count.

Votes Classed—Votes will be issued in the following denominations:

New Subscribers, 600 votes... \$1.50
Renewals, 500 votes... 1.50
Back Subscriptions, 400 votes... 1.50
600 votes... 1.50
5 years New or Renewal Subscriptions, 5000 votes... 7.50
10 years New or Renewal Subscriptions, 12,500 votes... 15.00
20 years New or Renewal Subscriptions, 30,000 votes... 30.00

Instructions—Results to standing votes will be issued after 30 days. No votes accepted at less than regular price of paper concerned in this contest. No one connected with this paper or belonging to the immediate

families of merchants co-operating, will be allowed to become a candidate in this contest or work for contestants.

Votes after being voted, cannot be transferred to another. Be sure to know for whom you are going to vote before coming to the ballot box, as the editor or anyone else will not give you any information on the subject. The key to the ballot box will be in possession of the awarding committee during the contest.

For the first thirty days the paper will run a 25-vote coupon, which can be voted free for any lady contestant.

Contest to run about 90 days. CONTEST WILL CLOSE MARCH 29, 1916. The right to postpone date of closing is reserved if sufficient cause should occur.

Ten days prior to closing contest, the judges will carefully lock or seal ballot box and take same to the bank, where the same will be in a place where voting can be done during business hours and locked in a vault at night until the close of contest, when the judges will take charge and count same and announce the young ladies winning in their turn.

The last ten days all voting must be done in a sealed box at the bank. If you do not wish anyone to know for whom you are voting, place your cash for subscription together with your coupon in a sealed envelope, which will be furnished you, and put same in ballot box. This will give everyone a square deal. THIS CONTEST WILL CLOSE MARCH 29th, 1916.

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2nd Prize Value \$10.00 Donated by NOAH'S ARK VARIETY STORE We give our regular coupon with each cash purchase and redeem \$1.00 worth of these coupons with a 25-vote coupon. Save your coupons.	4th Prize Value \$10.00 Donated by A. T. KIBLAN, HOULTON Dealer in Dry Goods, Clothing, Furnishings, Shoes and Groceries We give a 25-vote coupon free with each \$1.00 cash purchase. Ask for coupon.	6th Prize Value \$5.00 Donated by WILLIAMS & HALL CO. STAPLE & FANCY GROCERIES We give a 25-vote coupon free with each \$1.00 cash purchase. Ask for coupon.	8th Prize Value \$5.00 Donated by A. J. DEMING DRUGGIST I give a 12½ vote coupon free with each 50c cash purchase. Ask for coupon.
3rd Prize Value \$10.00 Donated by VON A. GRAY JEWELER I give a 25-vote coupon free with each \$1.00 cash purchase. Ask for coupon.	5th Prize Value \$10.00 Donated by E. A. ROSS FURNITURE, STOVES, RANGES I give a 25-vote coupon free with each \$1.00 cash purchase. Ask for coupon.	7th Prize Value \$5.00 Donated by JAS. MUCKLE & SON DEPARTMENT STORE We give a 25-vote coupon free with each \$1.00 cash purchase. Ask for coupon.	9th Prize Value \$5.00 Donated by H. MORGUS & SON Dry Goods, Clothing, Furnishings, Shoes We give a 25-vote coupon free with each \$1.00 cash purchase. Ask for coupon.

Ten Per Cent Commission—All those who do not win one of the regular prizes will receive 10 per cent of all the money collected on subscription

Address All Communications and Subscriptions to Contest Manager

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Send this Vote Coupon to the Mist office before the date of the first count and it will count 25 votes. No money required with this coupon.

Votes for.....

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I hereby nominate or suggest the name of.....1916

Her address.....

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